

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----- 008129

O R 071200 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0824

INFO CJCS

CINCPAC

S E C R E T PHNOM PENH 3301

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINR, APER, CB

SUBJECT: AUGMENTATION OF EMBASSY PERSONNEL

REF: STATE 059578/310032 Z MAR 73

1. PRESENT TOTAL OF PERMANENT EMBASSY SLOTS AUTHORIZED IS 197, INCLUDING 9 CONTRACT AMERICANS. IN ADDITION WE HAVE SIX DAO AUGMENTES ON BOARD FOR THE DURATION OF THE CURRENT AIR CAMPAIGN, AND IN ANOTHER AREA AN AUGMENTATION OF THREE OR FOUR MEN ON A TEMPORARY AND POSSIBLY INDEFINITE BASIS HAS ALREADY BEEN AUTHORIZED IN WASHINGTON. THUS TO ACCOMODATE THE ADDITIONAL 15 WE HAVE NO RPT NO ALTERNATIVE TO ELIMINATING 15 EXISTING SLOTS.

2. THIS IS HOW WE PROPOSE TO DO IT:

(A) MERGE THE POL/ MIL AND POL SECTIONS, ELIMINATING ONE STATE POSITION (10-007) AND THE TWO CINCPAC SUPPLIED LIEUTENANT COLONELS (BROMAN, EDWARDS). ACTION ON THE FORMER IS ALREADY IN TRAIN AND THE POSITION WOULD BE ELIMINATED EFFECTIVE IN MID- AUGUST; WE WOULD PROPOSE THAT THE TWO CINCPAC POSITIONS BE ELIMINATED EFFECTIVE 30 JUNE.

(B) ELIMINATE ONE GSO POSITION WHICH WE HAD BEEN
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CARRYING FOR HEADSPACE PURPOSES BUT WHICH HAD YET TO BE OFFICIALLY AUTHORIZED.

(C) ELIMINATE THE VOA TECHNICIAN POSITION (TRIPP).
ACTION TO THIS EFFECT IS ALREADY IN TRAIN FOR 31 AUGUST.

(D) ELIMINATE THE SENIOR ECONOMIST POSITION IN ECON (NORMALLY 22-025, AID POSITION NUMBER 274420010). THIS POSITION HAS NOT BEEN FILLED AND TWO COMPETENT JUNIOR ECONOMISTS ARE AVAILABLE. ELIMINATE ALSO THE NEWLY PROPOSED POSITION OF PLANNING AND RECONSTRUCTION ADVISER.

(E) ELIMINATE ONE DAO ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST POSITION (JTDRN10980).

(F) DOWNGRADE OUR SECURE VOICE CAPABILITY BY REDUCING AMERICAN FEDERAL ELECTRIC CORPORATION CONTRACT EMPLOYEES FROM FOUR TO TWO, AND BY RELOCATING THE OUT- OF- COUNTRY SWITCHBOARD TO A LESS SENSITIVE AREA THAN AT PRESENT. WE WOULD RETAIN THE CAPABILITY TO INITIATE SECURE VOICE AT ANY HOUR BUT COULD NOT MONITOR INCOMING CALLS AROUND THE CLOCK AS AT PRESENT. TCN AUGMENTATION BY TWO WOULD BE REQUIRED TO SUSTAIN RELIABLE VOICE AND TELETYPE COMMUNICATION. THIS WOULD NECESSITATE SOME REJUGGLING OF OUR TCN COMPLEMENT.

(G) DELETE THE MEDTC POSITION CODED AS A AND MOVE THE POSITIONS CODED B TO THE JOINT LIAISON OFFICE, CAMP SAMAE SAN, THAILAND. READ IN THREE COLUMNS:

CODE	POSITION	FY73 JTD
	PARA/ LINE	
A	CHMEDTC SECY- STENO	01/04
A	NAVY PLANS OFF	15/04
A	COMMO OPS	09/07
B	COMPTROLLER	12/03
B	ADMIN NCO	14/01

3. AS YOU SURELY RECOGNIZE, THESE CHANGES WILL AUGMENT THE STRESS ON WHAT IS ALREADY AN EXCEPTIONALLY HARD- WORKING STAFF, BUT I BELIEVE THAT THEY ARE TOLERABLE.

4. TIMING PRESENTS SOME DIFFICULTIES. IT WILL TAKE
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AT LEAST TWO WEEKS AND QUITE POSSIBLY LONGER TO RELOCATE

THE OVERSEAS TELEPHONIC EXCHANGE AND HAND IT OVER TO
TCN' S. TWO WEEKS ARE ALSO NECESSARY FOR THE PHASE- OUT
OF MEDTC PERSONNEL. THE TWO POL- MIL JOBS WOULD OPEN
UP IN JUNE, THE POL AND VOA JOBS IN AUGUST. WITH THIS IN
MIND WE WOULD SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING PHASE IN:

APRIL 20 - FIVE AUGMENTEES

APRIL 30 - FIVE AUGMENTEES

JUNE 30 - THREE AUGMENTEES

AUGUST 31 - TWO AUGMENTEES

IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO ACCELERATE IF OUR PERSONNEL
SITUATION CHANGES, IN PARTICULAR SHOULD AIR OPERATIONS
STAND DOWN OR DIMINISH. IF SO, WE WOULD ADVISE.

5. THIS SEEMS TO US A REASONABLE DIVISION OF THE
BURDEN PROVIDED 15 SLOTS HAVE TO BE MADE AVAILABLE.
CHMEDTC CONTINUES TO BE RELUCTANT TO RELINQUISH FIVE
ACTION- ORIENTED POSITIONS FOR AN ENHANCED INTELLIGENCE
GATHERING CAPABILITY. WE ASSUME, HOWEVER, THAT THE
WASHINGTON LEVEL DECISION IS FIRM, IRRESPECTIVE OF THE
MISSION ELEMENT AFFECTED.
SWANK

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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